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Press Release

International Energy Agency Photovoltaic Power System Programme (IEA PVPS) publishes its new "Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Markets 2020": From niche technology to mainstream energy source: 115 GW PV capacity installed in 2019

IEA PVPS published its new Snapshot report on Wednesday, 29 April 2020. This serves as a preliminary assessment prior to the 25th edition of the PVPS flagship report "Trends in PV Applications" that will be published at the end of the year. This report provides estimated data about photovoltaic (PV) capacity in the countries reporting to the IEA PVPS Programme and additional key markets. At least 627 GW of PV are now installed worldwide, as 115 GW of PV were installed globally in 2019.

Paris, France, 29 April 2020 –After a year of market stabilization, preliminary reported market data shows a 2019 global annual PV market at a higher level than 2018 and 2017. At least 114,9 GW of PV systems have been installed and commissioned in the world last year. The total cumulative installed capacity for PV at the end of 2019 reached at least 627 GW. These are the main outcomes of the latest IEA PVPS "Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Market 2020" report.

In 2019, the PV market broke the 100 GW threshold for the third time in a row and the market grew with 12% YoY. This growth follows a year of stabilization and is explained by the significant market increase in all continents, which global effect has been partially hidden by the slowdown in China, the world market leader in PV installations (30,1 GW).

The European Union as a whole reached the second place (16 GW, with Spain and Germany in the top 10 countries) followed by the United States of America (13,3 GW). Behind this top 3, Japan (7 GW), Vietnam (4,8 GW), Australia (3,7 GW), Ukraine (3,5 GW) and Korea (3,1 GW).

In total, PV contribution amounts to close to 3,0% of the electricity demand in the world. The contribution of PV to decarbonizing the energy mix is progressing, with PV saving as much as 720 million tons of CO2eq based on the installed capacity at the end of 2019. PV contributes to reducing global CO2 emissions by 1,7% or 2,2% of the energy-related emissions and 5,3% of the electricity related emissions. Much remains to be done to fully decarbonize and PV deployment should increase by at least one order of magnitude to cope with the targets defined during the COP21 in Paris.

In the coming years, PV has the potential to become a major source of electricity at an extremely rapid pace in several countries all over the world. The speed of its development stems from its unique ability to cover most market segments; from the very small household systems to utility-size power plants (today way over 1 GWp). PV follows a rapid growth path, which might be supported in the coming years by two key enablers: the decrease of battery prices, the rapid uptake of electric vehicles and the emergence of commercial green hydrogen production plants.

Download the full report:

https://iea-pvps.org/snapshot-reports/snapshot-2020/

Download the last edition of the "Trends in PV Applications":

https://iea-pvps.org/trends_reports/2019-edition/

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About the IEA PVPS "Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Markets" Report

This report is the 8th edition of its kind. It has been prepared by IEA PVPS Task 1 largely based on national contributions provided by Task 1 participating countries and additional sources. The data presented in the report are preliminary estimates that will be followed by official validated data by national governments. These official data will be published later this year in the well-known IEA PVPS Trends Report. To obtain electronic copies of this report or information on other IEA PVPS publications please visit the IEA PVPS website www.iea-pvps.org.

About IEA-PVPS

The IEA Photovoltaic Power Systems Programme (IEA PVPS) is one of the Technology Collaboration Programmes (TCP) within the IEA and was established in 1993. The mission of the programme is to "enhance the international collaborative efforts which facilitate the role of photovoltaic solar energy as a cornerstone in the transition to sustainable energy systems." In order to achieve this, the Programme's participants have undertaken a variety of joint research projects in PV power systems applications. The overall programme is headed by an Executive Committee, comprised of one delegate from each country or organisation member, which designates distinct 'Tasks,' that may be research projects or activity areas.

The IEA PVPS participating countries are Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, and the United States of America. The European Commission, Solar Power Europe, the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA), the Solar Energy Industries Association and the Copper Alliance are sponsor members.

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